

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA



Archbishop Gregory Brief Letter for Safe Haven Sunday – April 7, 2019

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

A blessed Lent to all of you. Thank you for allowing me a few moments to speak to you.

As parents and those responsible for our young people, we know the various challenges that come from the availability and use of indecent and obscene material. It is pervasive online and on our mobile devices. Through first exposure, even if innocent, curiosity can lead to repeated and habitual use. It sadly then becomes the way our children are “educated”—or rather misled—about love and the human body.

As a response and proactive step, today as an archdiocese we are observing Safe Haven Sunday. Safe Haven Sunday is an annual initiative inspired by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ statement *Create in Me a Clean Heart*, which states, “The use of [inappropriate content] by anyone in the home deprives the home of its role as a safe haven and has negative effects throughout a family’s life and across generations.”

Resources will be shared after Mass that can help parents and others to create a safe haven within your home. In particular, I encourage all parents and caregivers to join a seven-day text-to-opt-in program. These texts contain videos with easy instructions for turning your home into a safe haven.

Parenting has never been easy, and it is only getting tougher. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers—thank you for all you do! You have my full support and prayers for your most vital vocation.

As we continue our journey this Lent, may we all live in the freedom and light of our Lord Jesus and strive for His purity in our lives, homes, and communities.

May God bless you!